

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's
EXCITER

**RARS EVENTS:**

- The RARS General Membership meeting is the 1st Tuesday of the month.
- The RARS net meets every night @ 8 PM on 146.640.
- The RARS Technical & Trader's net is Saturdays @ 8:30 PM or following the RARS net.
- RARS meets for a monthly dinner on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

Annual RARS Holiday Party

**Announcement by Justin Pinnix AJ4MJ,
RARS Vice President**

The holiday season is just around the corner. In place of the December meeting, RARS will hold its annual Holiday Party. It will take place on December 7, 2010 at 7:00pm at the First Alliance Church (4400 Buffaloe Rd in Raleigh). The Encore Singers will be providing musical entertainment. This is a family-friendly event, so please bring your families with you. As is the case with our general meetings, there will a drawing and door prizes will be awarded. However, the door prizes will be of interest to hams and non-hams alike.

The club will furnish drinks and supplies. Food will be potluck. Please bring a dessert or appetizer to share. Everyone is invited to attend -- members, non-members, hams, and non-hams. We look forward to seeing you all there.



Next RARS Meeting: December 7

7:30 PM: Installation of 2011 RARS Officers, followed by the RARS Christmas Party featuring the Encore Singers. Please bring a snack to share!

RARS OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT

Karl Bowman

W4CHX

919.669.6068

w4chx@arrl.net

VICE PRESIDENT

Justin Pinnix

AJ4MJ

919.832.1188

[justin@](mailto:justin@fuzzythinking.com)

fuzzythinking.com

SECRETARY

Charles Swindell

WB4DCM

919.848.0410

wb4dcm@arrl.net

TREASURER

Greg Seamster

KE4PAX

919.859.0029

ke4pax@arrl.net



The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the amateur radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, the society incorporated a new RARS and obtained 501(c)(3) non-profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through amateur radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic needs; to educate members in radio technique, and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining amateur radio licenses.

Anyone interested in amateur radio is eligible to apply for membership. Dues for regular licensed amateurs are \$18 per year (from July 1 through June 30). Additional immediate family members pay \$5 each per year. Dues for licensed amateurs older than 59 or younger than 16 are \$12 per year. Dues for non-licensed associate members are \$9 per year. Applications for membership may be obtained from the treasurer or on the RARS website (www.rars.org).



The Exciter

The *Exciter* is the official newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It appears each month as a PDF on the RARS website at www.rars.org. Members receive email notification when the latest version is available. Please provide your email address to the Treasurer.

The *Exciter* welcome articles, advertisements, and other contributions. To submit a piece to the newsletter, please contact the Editor.

The views expressed in the *Exciter* are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or RARS.

The Editor reserves the right to edit any and all pieces.

The submission deadline for each month's *Exciter* is the third Friday of the preceding month. All submissions must be final. Drafts are not accepted.

Editor: Courtney Enzor KI4HOS (editor@rars.org)

RARS General Meeting

Date: First Tuesday of each month

Location: First Alliance Church

4400 Buffaloe Road

Raleigh, NC

Time: People begin arriving at 7 PM. The meeting officially begins at 7:30 PM.

RARS Monthly Dinner

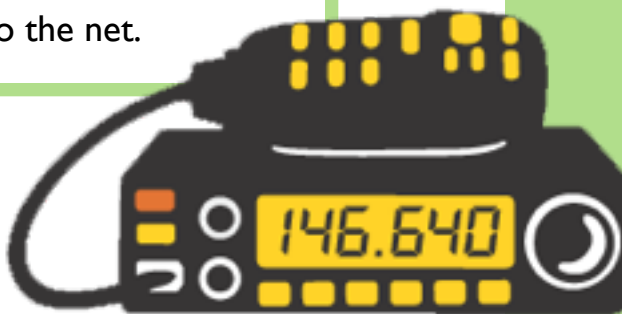
Join us on the 2nd Tuesday of each month for the RARS dinner. It's open to everyone: RARS members, non-members, friends, and family – feel free to bring your little ones! Dinner begins at 6:30 pm.

Listen to the nightly RARS net and check www.rars.org for details on the next dinner's location.

RARS Repeaters in Raleigh

145.130 (82.5 PL), 146.640, & 444.525 (82.5 PL)

Join us for the nightly RARS net @ 8 PM on the 146.640. All hams holding a Technician class license or higher are invited to check in. We welcome both RARS and non-RARS member to the net.



VE TESTING

The RARS VEs will accept walk-in testing at the February, May, August, and November RARS meetings; the RARSFest in April; the Cary Swapfest in July; the JARSFest in November; and following RARS license classes.

Please bring a photo ID, your current license, a copy of your current license, your \$15 exam fee, and any CSEs you have for credit. Visit www.rars.org for more information.

December Birthdays

Jack	WB6JZY	12/1
Rick	K4RLE	12/1
John	W2YBN	12/2
Nancy	KD4PCB	12/5
Randy	KE4PNT	12/6
Virginia	NC4VA	12/9
Bruce	KC4UQN	12/9
Clyde	WB2EYC	12/10
Mike	WA4BPJ	12/11
George Herring		12/11
Frank	KA2FWC	12/12
Nicholas Gessler		12/12
Roger	KS4VX	12/12
Ebb	W3EPA	12/13
Conner	KE4ZNS	12/15
Cliff	W4FT	12/17
Roger	W3EZR	12/18
Kevin	KC4THW	12/18
James	KE6FNW	12/20
Bert	W4FMN	12/21
David	KG4RIY	12/27
Katie	KE4DRL	12/31
Dick	KD4ISC	12/31
Gerry	K4GCJ	12/31

October 2010

RARS Net Reports

Checkins: 440
Traffic: 26/20
Minutes: 470
Sessions: 31

Special Interest Nets:
Checkins: 120
Minutes: 390
Sessions: 9

Upcoming Hamfests

12/4- 12/5	Tampa Bay Hamfest Palmetto, FL http://fgcarc.org/
1/1	20th Annual Morristown Hamfest White Pine, TN http://www.lakewayarc.org/
1/8	TechFest Lawrenceville, GA http://www.gars.org/joomla/
1/8	FirstFest Winston-Salem, NC http://www.w4nc.com/
1/14- 1/15	Cowtown Hamfest Fort Worth, TX http://www.cowtownhamfest.org/
1/28- 1/29	Capitol City Hamfest Jackson, MS http://www.msham.org/hamfest.php

New RARS Members

Chris Lamers	KJ4ZBB
Stuart Kaskawits	NF2N
Billy Newton	KJ4ZKG

President's Corner

Article by Karl Bowman W4CHX, RARS President

Several days ago, it was reported at the RARS Board meeting that we have 255 members. I was thinking about that this morning and realized that there are many club members I have not met. But, based on the 40-50 club members or more that I have met, it is very obvious that RARS members are very talented individuals with wide ranging interests and skills in amateur radio. I am impressed by the willingness of RARS members to share their time and expertise through public service, education of new hams, presentations at club meetings, or one-on-one interactions while solving the problems of other individuals. I encourage all RARS members to attend our monthly meetings and activities. At those events, you will meet our new members, see your old friends, listen to outstanding presentations, participate in lively discussions, and share your expertise with others. Ultimately, it is hoped that your participation in RARS will stimulate your ongoing interest in amateur radio and assure that RARS remains an outstanding and active amateur radio club.

On a related note, the Board has decided that RARS will submit an application for the Club of the Year Award, which will be given by the Dayton Hamvention, in May, 2011. The deadline for submitting the application is January 15, 2011. Four club members have volunteered to prepare the application, but we need your help. Please forward information about club activities, along with supporting documentation, which you feel should be included in the application to Gary KN4AQ, John AI4RT, Ken KI4OTO, or myself.

One final comment: I encourage all newly-elected 2011 Officers and Board Members to be present for their installation at the December meeting.

New EchoLink Node

Announcement by Bob German KB4RGC

A new EchoLink node with simplex link in SE Raleigh is available. I recently set up an EL simplex link at my QTH. It is open for use by any interested ham and allows connecting to other repeaters from all over the country or actually from all over the world. The link can be heard in most of SE Raleigh, and I even had one or two people in Cary use it.

The simplex link is on 146.490 and has a cw id every 10 minutes – if you hear the id you are in business!

Fall Tech Class 2010

**Article by Virginia Enzor NC4VA,
RARS Education Director**

The recent RARS Technician License Preparation Class boasts 3 new graduates! The 2-part class took place on November 6 at First Alliance Church in Raleigh and November 20 at Glen Royal Baptist Church in Wake Forest. Instructor Mike Murphy WA4BPJ taught via an excellent PowerPoint presentation that he created based on the new edition of the ARRL Ham Radio License Manual. RARS Education Director Virginia Enzor set up an amateur radio station for class attendees to get on the air during break time.

The RARS W5YIVE team headed by Joe and Liz White, WA4GIR and KO4CK respectively, along with Karl Bowman W4CHX, Jim McRight KB4BZ and Virginia Enzor NC4VA, provided the exam session. Congratulations go to Ed Barrington of Cary, Mike Hardee of Raleigh, and Billy Newton of Raleigh for passing their Tech exams! Say hello to our newest hams when you hear them on the air!

Also, hats off to Rich Mitchell N4ENL for upgrading to Extra at the exam session.

Next up on the RARS class offerings will be a preparation class for the General Class License in early 2011.

Ed Barringer (left, front row)
actively participates in
class discussion.



October 19, 2010 RARS Board Meeting Minutes

Minutes by Charlie Swindell WB4DCM, RARS Secretary

Present: Gary Pearce KN4AQ, Justin Pinnix AJ4MJ, John Snellen AI4RT, Karl Bowman W4CHX, Chuck Littlewood K4HF, Greg Seamster KE4PAX, Hank Montgomery K4HM, Selene Montgomery KG4RMT, Ken McEwen KI4OTO, and Charles Swindell WB4DCM

Apologies: Mary KG4OQA, Don WA4AVU, and Virginia NC4VA.

- 1.) Call to order (Karl W4CHX): The meeting was called to order at 7:03PM.
- 2.) Approval of minutes (Karl W4CHX and Charles WB4DCM): The Minutes of the September 21, 2010 meeting of the RARS Board were approved as amended.
- 3.) Vice President (Justin AJ4MJ): The program for the November meeting will be Jeff Wittich AC4ZO. The Encore Singers have been reserved for the December meeting.
- 4.) Treasurer's report (Greg KE4PAX): RARS now has 252 members. Forty-four old members from last year have not renewed their membership.
- 5.) Secretary's report (Charles WB4DCM): No report.
- 6.) Committee reports:
 - 1.) Public Service Director (John AI4RT): There are four public service events between now and the end of the year. November 13 in Wilmington; November 21 Turkey Run; November 7 City of Oaks Marathon; and December 10 Christmas Parade in Fuquay. Please check the webpage for details.
 - 2.) Public Information Officer (Gary KN4AQ): No report.
 - 3.) Education Director (Virginia NC4VA): Virginia was not present but President Karl presented some information on her behalf. The November Technician Class has lost the use of the room for November 20th. Several suggestions as to alternative locations were discussed and will be reviewed further.
 - 4.) Field Day Chair (Mike WA4BPJ): Bob W4TTX has agreed to be the Field Day Chairman for 2011.
 - 5.) FM Repeater Chair (Gary KN4AQ): No report.

(Continued on next page)

6.) RARSFest Chair (John AI4RT): The next planning meeting will be on Monday, November 25th at the TRRS Board Room.

7.) Exciter Chair (Courtney KI4HOS): No report.

8.) Hospitality Chair (Mary Jo K4MJL): No report.

9.) Net Manager (Mary KG4OQA): Mary was not present but sent an email to the President advising that, "The nets are doing well".

10.) ARRL Liaison (Chuck K4HF): No report.

11.) At-Large Director (Don WA4AVU): No report.

12.) At-Large Director (Ken KI4OTO): No report.

13.) At-Large Director (Steve KJ4BX): No report.

14.) W4DW/W4RNCTrustee (Jeff AC4ZO): No report.

15.) RARSVE Coordinators (Joe WA4GIR and Liz KO4CK): No report.

16.) RARS Webmaster (Hank K4HM): The members' only section of the webpage has been improved and tied into the data base. Profiles are more visible. In order to get your personal pass word, the system must have your correct email address and the pass word is sent to the email address. The ARRL website is slowly being cleaned up.

7.) Old Business:

1.) Financial Review of RARS books: Greg KE4PAX, Ken KI4OTO, and Karl W4CHX met on September 28, 2010 to do a financial review the RAARS books. The conclusion was discussed briefly. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the report of the committee. If any RARS member has any questions, please contact Greg KE4PAX or Karl W4CHX

2.) The Nominating Committee (Chuck K4HF) advised that all was in order.

8.) New Business:

(Continued on next page)

1.) There was brief discussion about free software that would be available for RARS. Justin AJ4MJ will pursue for RARS.

2.) There was discussion about the Exciter and what we might do to help. The Editor is always looking for articles to include. It was decided that it would not be practical to have presenters of programs at the meetings to submit a written article for inclusion in the Exciter.

9.) Board Member Comments:

1.) Selene KG4RMT asked if the Board was going to meet in the month of December. That final decision will be made at the November meeting.

2.) Hank K4HM commented that Microsoft has a new internet Explorer version 9. However, it will not run with XP.

10.) Adjournment (Karl W4CHX): The meeting was adjourned at 8:39PM.

October 5, 2010 RARS Meeting Minutes

**Minutes by Charlie Swindell WB4DCM,
RARS Secretary**

1.) Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM by Karl W4CHX. There were 48 members and guests present.

2.) Approval of Minutes: The Minutes of the RARS General Membership meeting on October 5, 2010 were approved as written.

3.) Vice President's report (Justin AJ4MJ): The December meeting program will be our Christmas Party. The Encore Singers will entertain us. ***Please bring a dessert or something to share.***

4.) Treasurer's report (Greg KE4PAX): In his absence, Karl W4CHX gave the Treasurer's report. RARS has 253 members. If any RARS member has any questions, please contact Greg KE4PAX or Karl W4CHX for further information.

(Continued on next page)

5.) Announcements (Karl W4CHX):

1.) RARS Dinner: Is the second Tuesday of each month (November 9), 6:30 PM at the Golden Coral, 2909 Millbrook Road (at the corner of Capital Blvd and Millbrook Road), monitor the 146.64 repeater on Tuesday (11/9) for any update information.

2.) RARS Board meeting: Is the third Tuesday of each month (November 16), 7:00 PM, Triangle Radio Reading Service, 211 E. Six Forks Road, Suite 103; any RARS member is welcome to attend. For more information, contact any RARS officer.

3.) After meeting gathering: Depending on the time of the program completion: Applebee's, Six Forks Road and Wake Forest Road (by the Costco).

4.) W4DW wins 1st place in Class 8A in ARRL Field Day 2010: Congratulations were extended to Mike WA4BPJ and the entire RARS Field Day team. More information is available on the ARRL web page.

5.) Guests: Chris Lamers, Raleigh (no call, yet) and Mike Last, Na'alehu, HI, NH7JT. New member Marc Sullivan W4MPS of Clayton.

6.) Selene KG4RMT reminded everyone of the JARS Hamfest on Sunday, November 21st in Benson.

6.) Nomination Committee report (Chuck K4HF). The following people were nominated for two year terms: Vice President C J Orr KJ4OBQ and Treasurer Greg Seamster KE4PAX. Board Members for 1 year term: Public Service Director John Snellen AI4RT, Public Information Officer Gary Pearce KN4AQ, RARS 2011 Hamfest Chair John Snellen AI4RT, RARS Exciter Editor Courtney Enzor KI4HOS, RARS Net manager Mary Holtschneider KG4OQA, At-Large Director Don Downs WA4AVU, At-Large Director Ken McEwen KI4OTO, At-Large Director Jack Foster N6UYB, FM Repeater Chair Gary Pearce KN4AQ, W4DW, W4RNC Trustee Jeff Wittich AC4ZO, ARRL Liaison Chuck Littlewood K4HF, Education Director Virginia Enzor NC4VA, and RARS Web Master Hank Montgomery K4HM. For Committee Chairmen: RARS Hospitality Chair Mary Jo Littlewood K4MJL, RARS 2011 Field Day Chair Bob Starkenburg W4TTX, and RARS Volunteer Exam Coordinators Liz and Joe White, KO4CK & WA4GIR resp. There were no nominations from the floor and this slate was selected upon motion and second and vote of the membership present.

(Continued on next page)

7.) Reports from RARS Board members and others:

1.) Public Service Director John AI4RT advised that on Sunday, November 7th is the City of Oaks Marathon; November 13 in Wilmington is a race; November 21st is the Make Room for Turkey race; and December 5th is the Fuquay Christmas Parade. All of these events need volunteers. Please go to the RARS web page.

2.) RARSFest Chair John AI4RT needs 4 volunteer team leaders: the Youth Lounge, Contesting, Special Events Radio Station, and Talk-in. In addition, he needs someone to plan the volunteers' picnic. Please send an email directly to John at AI4RT@hotmail.com

3.) Emergency Coordinator for Wake County John AI4RT reminded everyone that the ARES Net meets on Thursday evenings on the 146.88 repeater.

4.) Alan AB4OZ announced that there will be a 10 meter SSB net on 28.364 Mhz on Saturday evenings at 9:00 or 9:30 PM.

5.) Hank K4HM reminded everyone that there will be a Technician Class on November 6th and 20th. The November 6th class will be at the First Alliance Church on Buffalo Rd. The November 20th class will be in Wake Forest.

8.) The door prize drawing was won by AJ4VK.

9.) Program: The evening was presented by Jeff Wittich AC4ZO. Jeff did an outstanding job presenting information about Samuel Morse, the development of the telegraph, and telegraph keys. He also had a large display of keys that he has collected. Those of you that missed the meeting really missed a great program.

10.) Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 PM by Karl W4CHX.

Local Amateur Radio Nets

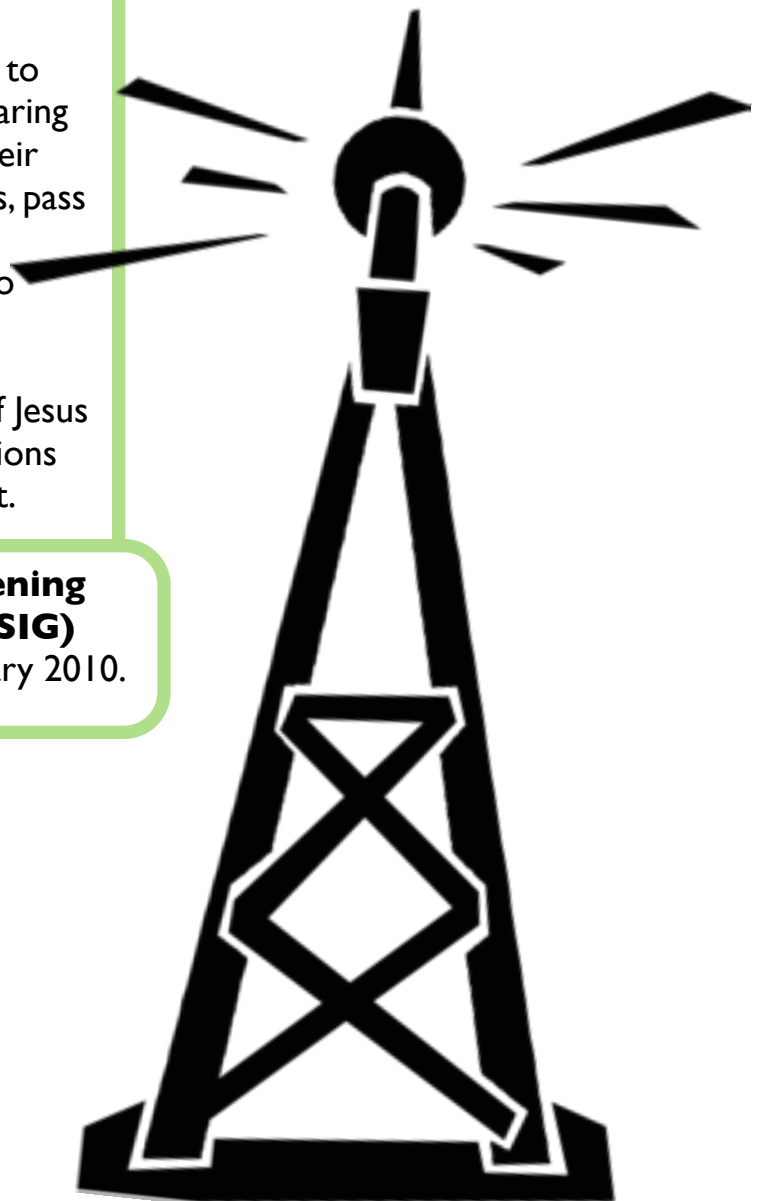
The **RARS Technical & Trader's Net** is held on Saturday evenings on the 146.640 at 8:30 PM.

Apex Emergency Response Communications Net

This net meets weekly each Sunday evening @ 9 PM on the 146.640 repeater. The purpose of the net is to assist ham radio operators in preparing to respond to emergencies, test their equipment, improve operating skills, pass traffic, and to provide those with a common interest an opportunity to meet. The Apex ERC Net provides amateur radio emergency communications for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. All stations are invited to participate in this net.

FYI: The **Tarheel Shortwave Listening (SWL) Special Interest Group (SIG) Net** has been discontinued as of January 2010.

The **VOIP Hurricane Net** is held Sundays at 00:00 UTC on the 146.775 repeater with a tone of 88.5 (IRLP node 4260). For information about activation details, go to www.voipwx.net.



Local Amateur Radio Nets

Join us every evening at 8 PM on the 146.640 repeater for the **RARS Two-Meter Net**. You can give a ragchew, check in and out (this counts for our total numbers reported to the ARRL!), make announcements, and pass traffic. We also offer National Traffic System traffic training. All licensed stations are welcome to participate in the net as often as they can. This net is also a great way to learn about amateur radio if you are newly licensed!

Central Carolina SKYWARN

Please join us each Tuesday @ 9:15 PM on the 146.880 repeater for the CCS net. On each net there are announcements, check-ins by county, and often a program or training spot. Check us out at www.centralcarolinaskywarn.net.

The **PCTN (Piedmont Costal Traffic Net)** meets every night at 9 PM on the 146.880. The purpose of the net is to handle/pass NTS formal messages. Amateur stations are encouraged to check in and participate. The backup repeater is the 147.105 (PL tone 82.5).

The **Wake County ARES Net** meets Thursdays around 2115 on the 146.880 repeater. We provide discussion and training for the implementation and provision of emergency communications for our served agencies, such as the American Red Cross and the local and state Emergency Operations Center. Please join us. For more information, check out www.wakeares.org.

Please join us on the **Carolina 440 Net** every Monday night at 7:30 PM. This ragchew net utilizes the Carolina 440 UHF Link Repeater System. Comprised of the Raleigh, Down East, and Coastal Wilmington link systems, there are currently 19 repeaters on the system, covering 21,168 square miles. For a list of these repeaters, please visit www.carolina440.net.

RARS Classifieds

Looking to add a new radio to your shack? Have an antenna for sale? Browse the RARS classifieds for new and used radio equipment at <http://rars.org/classifieds.php>.

RARS members are welcome to post notices about equipment they are selling. Posts last for 30 days and are editable at any time.

Using our classifieds is a great way for buyers to search for available items and for sellers to reach a local, targeted audience.

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's

EXCITER

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc.
PO Box 17124
Raleigh, NC 27619

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID
RALEIGH, NC
PERMIT NO. 2130